

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018
5:00 PM

Present: Richard Schadewald, James Crawford, Karen Sanchez, Cheryl Weber, Susan Molenaar, Joe Van Deurzen

Excused: Jay Tibbetts

Others Present: Supervisor Joan Brusky, Erik Pritzl, Anna Destree, Ann Steinberger, Zach Kroening, Andrea Kressin, Christine Davidson, Chris Culotta, Janet Kazmierczak, Tami Radwill, Executive Director of Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, Barbara Vanden Boogart, William Acker

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order.

2. Approval / Modification of the Agenda

Motion to modify agenda to add Human Services Director's Report to follow Public Health Legislation

MOTION: To approve modified agenda.

Van Deurzen / Crawford

MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of October 9, 2018.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from October 9, 2018.

Van Deurzen / Weber

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Hearing and Vision Presentation

Andrea Kressin handed out a presentation document entitled "Hearing and Vision Program Presentation." Andrea stated staffing changes led us to evaluate the program in order to meet commitments with the schools. In Public Health we are being asked to look at what types of changes will have the largest impact in our community. We are also looking to build up community partnerships and make sure services are still provided. We wanted to screen the same grades, which is in line with the American Academy of Pediatrics best practices. We also wanted to make sure that the same amount of children were still being screened. We recognize that screening tools are just that. It is not a full diagnosis from an eye doctor or medical professional. We want to make sure they are connected with a medical care provider for their eyes.

The changes made to the program are for 4 and 5K students we are screening using a Spot photorefractor; 1st, 3rd and 5th grades we are using the chart method. The Tumbling E's vision chart is no longer being used (1st, 3rd, 5th grades). Instead, we are aligning with best practice and using the Sloan chart as the screening tool for these ages. Other procedural changes for chart screening include using the Happy Feet, as recommended by Prevent Blindness, as well as occluder paddles versus paper cups. Andrea stated in the past we had the three dedicated staff to the Hearing and Vision Program. We made it a team effort, divided schools among all the health aides, and have addressed staffing shortages.

Andrea stated our next step is participating in a vision workgroup with community partners. One of the goals of that workgroup is to look at the next steps part of screening. If we know parents are not following up, having their children seeing a medical professional, and how can we reduce barriers so kids can get access to the care that they need in terms of their vision. Andrea stated we would add a health educator into the mix in order to be able to build up community partnerships, utilize other resources that are out there, to engage in quality improvement activities and to analyze statistics.

Tami Radwill stated she has been with Prevent Blindness for 16 years and Prevent Blindness has been around since 1958. Tami stated Brown County has been a long time partner who screens 16,000-18,000 kids every year. Tami stated Wisconsin is one of ten states that do not have a law that requires vision screenings. She commends Brown County for providing this screening for families. Tami stated Prevent Blindness' protocol is set by the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health. A national expert panel makes recommendations based on research studies and best practice. Tami stated about 2 years ago the papers were published and some of the changes came about. What used to be acceptable practice was the Lea wall

chart but is now the Lea flipbook and the photo screeners have come out. Tami stated the wall charts are the best practice and they will be the best practice because the other tools keep changing, and while those tools are acceptable practice, they do not stick around long enough to become best practice because the next generation is coming down the pike. Brown County is using the SPOT, which she states is 4th generation of the tools. Those tools never hit best practice. Tami stated the SPOT is the right tool to be using on 3, 4k and 5k kids. After that, the protocol set through the studies is the Snellen Sloan chart. Tami stated the Tumbling E chart was gone since about 2004. The reason is because it placed too many other demands on the kids, having to know which direction and other types of coordination and then it becomes more than a vision screening. Tami indicated we are following Bright Futures and Brown County is screening the grades Prevent Blindness recommends. The occluder paddles are best practice as well. The happy feet keeps the kids still and at the right distance. Tami sat on the Healthy Children Committee Taskforce who wrote the Blueprint for the State and they are the voice of vision and it is three, four and 5 year olds. The books are best practice. Any of the photorefractors are acceptable practice. Tami states they are the vision piece of that State document. She also sat on the School Age Taskforce Committee years ago through Prevent Blindness to talk about what a screening look should like at schools. They set that protocol and there is a position statement through Prevent Blindness as well. A screening is a screening and if they do not pass the screening, we want to get them to an eye care provider. Tami stated they had a grant through the Healthy Wisconsin Partnership with the Medical College and they have added curriculum for the classroom to educate the students and teacher and parent resources.

Chris Culotta, Northeast Region Director for Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, and Office of Policy Practice Alignment indicated in Wisconsin, there are 86 Health Departments. In the Northeast Region, he works with 17 counties, 19 local health departments and 3 tribes. Chris stated the State is pushing for modernization. Next year the State will conduct a 140 review, which looks at the core public health functions and essential services. Chris stated Brown County is doing a great job with their Beyond Health Steering Committee. That committee talks about system level changes, and talks about the health of community and then creates a Community Health Improvement Plan, which is a system level approach. Chris applauds Brown County for looking at the program and asking how we can modernize for the citizens.

Chery Weber stated we have a .68 employee on this project. Andrea stated prior to the resignations there were three staff dedicated to the hearing and vision program, two nurses at .68 FTE and one Health Aide at .6. Andrea stated we are looking to consolidate the two vacant positions and have a full time educator and having the current nurse maintain her position at .68.

Joe Van Deurzen asked if we could bring in other people to help with screening since we are short staffed. Andrea indicated the current model is to utilize our staff and when possible to use volunteers. It is something that we are exploring as far as partnerships but the vast majority of the screenings are being done by our own staff. Andrea indicated one of the goals of the educator is to identify opportunities in the community regarding volunteers. Susan Molenaar asked what happens after a child fails a screening. Chris Davidson states it varies depending on the child. She reaches out to schools and parents. The bulk of the students get a letter sent home. She tracks the letters and results that come back. The goal is to connect those kids with a medical provider. Jim Crawford asked how many do we screen and how many do not pass. Chris indicated 12,000 screened, 2,700 referred, 718 saw a medical provider. Chris indicated that last year we were using a combination of the Tumbling E chart and photorefractor. The chart is being used on the older students and the photorefractor is being use on 4k and 5k.

Joan Brusky asked what happens after the 6th grade level. Andrea stated that if a parent to teacher identifies a student, we would screen any age by request. Richard Schadewald asked if we keep cumulative records on kids. Chris indicated she does try. Tami indicated there are tools created by Prevent Blindness for this.

5. Public Health Legislation – Standing Item

Anna handed out the 2019-2020 Legislative Priorities that include 1) building and retaining public health infrastructure through public health funding 2) infusing health and equity in all policies and 3) improving public health workforce succession planning to support consistent and efficient delivery of services. Jim Crawford asked if Winnebago institution was our main facility. Erik Pritzel stated we are in a great position in Brown County because typically about 95% of our admissions stay in Brown County. Either we only use Winnebago as a last option because of capacity issue or there is legitimate treatment needs that we cannot meet in our facilities.

6. Health Officer Report

Human Services Director Erik Pritzl stated the legislative priorities connect within the Health and Human Services Budget overall. Erik stated he is proposing for 2019 to create a new division within Health and Human Services, which is the Criminal Justice Division under Community Services. This will hold together all current treatment court resources operating in Brown County; Heroin Court, Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Veteran's Court and OWI courts. A jail re-entry position has been added. Erik stated they have mental health officer clinician teams. They will pair a clinician with two mental health officers to go jointly in terms of making efforts to connect with people in either outreach or follow up from a crisis. They would also have the crisis assessment centers, which will look at efficacies and streamlining operations with mental health response. This would build onto the Community Treatment Center to have crisis assessment take place there with some limited medical screening.

Erik indicated trauma informed care was another budget initiative. Funding is set aside in 2019 to transform the organization into trauma informed care. One of the problems was staff to manage it. Erik indicated next year there is money for a consultant to handle that and also for a physical environment.

7. Nursing Unit Update

Ann Steinberger stated they did several clinics including; Heritage Hill flu clinic, serving 161 individuals; one at our office, serving 51, and one at the Kroc Center, serving 171 individuals. Ann stated they have a nurse position open and are in the process of hiring. Ann stated they are renegotiating the State contract for immunizations. They are going to continue with immunizing the children before the age of two with the primary services. This year they are currently at 81% and their goal is 83% of 2 year olds are immunized before age two with the primary series. Ann stated regarding lead, they are providing more comprehensive nurse follow up for lead levels that are five and above. Through the Lead Coalition they worked with the State for a provider tool kit, they customized it to Brown County, and it was distributed to local pedestrians in the area. Karen asked about adult immunization program and if it is only for residents of Brown County. Ann stated adults have to meet the State guidelines otherwise; they have to go to a provider. Jim asked about Acute Flaccid Myelitis. Ann handed out a fact sheet and stated there are no confirmed cases in Brown County. She states the diagnosis has to come from CDC. They still do not know what is causing this. The majority is occurring in children. Since 2014, there have been 404 confirmed cases. In 2018, there are 80 confirmed cases in 25 states. Cases are reported directly to the State and they inform us if we have anyone in our jurisdiction under investigation.

8. Environmental Unit Update

Zach Kroening stated we are starting interviews for our open sanitarian position. In the 2019, we will be adding an Environmental Technician, which will tackle the increase in the short-term rental tourist rooming house inspections. He hopes to have this filled in January 2019. Zach states they are forming a food safety advisory group whose goal would be to develop and maintain a strong line of communication between the Environmental Division and licensed operators as well as seek input on building a comprehensive, fair and consistent food inspection-licensing program. Zach stated they are creating an online application process for all licensed food establishments to apply for a seat on the committee and hope to have it completed by April 2019. Mr. Schadewald stated there is a software program, which will give them a list of the tourist rooming houses in Brown County. Zach estimated around 250 tourist rooming houses will need to be inspected.

9. Community Engagement Unit Update

Andrea stated our Maternal Child Health contract is being negotiated and hopes to have final updates by the end of this week and will update next board meeting. Andrea stated we are looking forward to hiring the Planner position which passed through budget with support from leadership. Andrea also indicated we are in the process of transitioning a hearing and vision nurse position to an educator.

10. Health officer remaining report

Anna stated our move date is February 28. We will close down the office except for emergency services. The first of March is unpack and settle day. March 4th public health opens at both locations. ICS structure has been working very well and it has helped us to streamline communication. Anna handed out the 2017 Annual Report and the 2019 Preparedness Calendar for the 200th birthday. One of the calendars made it into the time capsule at the Neville Public Museum.

11. Receive new information on wind turbines – Standing Item

Bill Acker handed out a document entitled "*Mason County wind-farm lawsuit against Consumers Energy settled for 17 of 19 plaintiffs.*" By John S. Hausman from www.mlive.com. Bill stated the terms of the settlement are confidential. Bill Acker also presented a court case document from State of Michigan, County of Mason, Kim Vannortwick, et al vs. Consumers Energy Company, Case No. 13-87-cz, Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial. He also handed out a document from www.michigancapitolconfidential.com entitled "*One Lawsuit Settled, But No Truce in Wind Energy Debate,*" by Jack Spencer, dated January 31, 2015. He also handed out a document entitled "*Brown County Board of Health Meeting Tuesday November 13 2018.*" He also handed out a document called "*Adverse Health Effects from Wind Turbines Commonly Called Wind Turbine Syndrome*", by William G. Acker dated November 13, 2018. Bill Acker stated this document lists many of the adverse health effects that are experienced from wind turbines as well as the adverse effects on animals.

Bill stated we do not have definitive health tests showing the wind turbines cause these health syndromes. This definitive proof is found in many cases of health problems, not just in the United States but also around the world. A good example is cigarette smoke causes lung cancer. That has never been medically proven that it causes health problems in humans. It has been proven in mice but has never been medically proven in humans. The reason why it is so highly supported in the United States is the preponderance of evidence. He states another example of this is the Monsanto Round Up case. It has never been medically proven that Round Up causes cancer. It has been indicated as a probable cancer-causing agent. They do the tests on mice and that makes it probable. The reason Bill gives these examples is it correlates well with what we are experiencing with respect to wind turbines. We may never get the medical evidence we would like but in his opinion, there is already a preponderance of the evidence.

12. Correspondences

None.

13. Comments from the Public

Barb Vanden Boogart commented on rudeness and animosity at this meeting. She stated they take a great deal of time and effort to look into things and protect the community. She states they are working hard to protect them.

14. All Other Business Authorized by Law

15. Adjournment / Next Meeting Schedule (January 8, 2019)